Decrease in Cultivation land size

†2752. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a constant decrease in the cultivated land holding of farmers in the country during the last many years;

(b) if so, the average size of the cultivated land-holding in the country at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that cultivation in this size of a holding has become economically unviable; and

(d) if so, Government reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per Agricultural Censuses 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86 and 1990-91, the average size per holding (in hectare) was 2.28, 2.00, 1.84, 1.69 and 1.55 respectively. The latest all-India results of Agricultural Census relate to agricultural year 1990-91.

(c) and (d) The viability of an agricultural holding depands upon a variety of factors including agro-climatic, level of use of agricultural input, availability of irrigation facilities, crop variety sown and the entrepreneurial skill of the farmer. No conclusive evidence is available regarding relationship between size of the holding and its economic viability.

Increase in production rate of crops

†2753. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.